TDA, have conducted various studies/market surveys/seminars/workshops/projects and published 13 different reports during the year 1993-94.

(c) and (d) With the growth of erstwhile TDA and TFAI, it was found that there was considerable over-lapping and complementarity in their working in the respective fields of participation in fairs and also organisation of Buyer-Seller Meets. The Government decided to merge the two erstwhile organisations as it is expected that the integration of the two organisations into one unit will yield better programme coordination and maximum utilisation of the expertise available on Ex-TFAI and Ex-TDA side to each other and thus provide a kind of trade promotion support which can pay for itself to a large extent through its usefulness, timeliness and quality of service rendered to the users.

Norms for export houses

4313. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact the Government have recently relax and norms for the export houses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these export houses would benefit as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (d) No Sir. The eligibility norms for the recognition as Export House remain unchanged.

Proposal to review Export Oriented Unit Schemes

4314. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM :
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA :

Will the Minister of COMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to review the working of Export Oriented Units Scheme in view of persistent complaints;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that exporters' performances during the past several years have been declining due to ineffective EOU scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Review of the EOU Scheme is an on-going process, which is done from time to time on the basis of representations/demand from EOUs.

The policy and procedures for the EOU Scheme have been reviewed last year by a Committee comprising of representatives from Trade and Industry, concerned Ministries and field organisations etc. Action on the recommendations of the Committee has been initiated and certain amendments to EXIM Policy effected.

(c) and (d) The exports from EOU sector are growing and reached a level of Rs. 1946 crores in 1992-93 against Rs. 1046 crores in the previous year. Exports in 1993-94 are also expected to maintain an upward trend.

Joint Business Council Agreement

4315. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 10 countries have approached India for entering into Joint Business Council Agreement with them for the promotion of trade and investment flows;

(b) if so, what are the names of such countries; and

(c) what is Government's reaction in respect thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The names of countries are as under :

(1) Morocco
(2) Uganda
(3) The Philippines
(4) Macedonia
(5) Mozambique
(6) Kuwait
(7) Syria

(8) Oman

(9) Saudi Arabia

(10) Czech Republic

(11) Slovak Republic.

(c) The Government are in principle in favour of such Joint Business Council Agreements.

TDA report on TTCI

4316. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Trade Development Authority in its report about Tea Trading Corporation of India had suggested for opening of joint ventures company abroad;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such joint venture companies set up by the TTCI have been running into losses;

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed on some persons for these avoidable losses; and

(d) if so, details thereof

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) In order to expand activities of Tea Trading Corporation of India in the South East Asian region, the erstwhile Trade Development Authority, during 1978-79, prepared a feasibility report for establishing a joint venture project in Singapore for tea packaging-*cum*-blending complex. The joint venture project at Singapore, which had run into losses, has since been wound up.

(c) and (d) Responsibility in the matter was fixed on the then Chief Executive of the Tea Trading Corporation of India Ltd., who has since resigned.

Impot of Dry Fruit

4317. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the countries from which dry fruit particularly Almond, Kishmish and other varieties of dry fruit have been imported during each of the last two years ;

(b) the foreign exchange incurred thereon yearwise; and

(c) the measures adopted to produce the dry fruit in the country and to save foreign exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) As per annexure. [*see* Appendix 170, Annexure No. 822].

(c) Government of India has allocated Rs. 74.40 crores for the Integrated Development of Tropical, Arid and Temperate Zone Fruits under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme during the Eighth Plan for the development of fruits, which also includes dry fruits.

राज्य व्यापार निगम तथा खनिज तथा धातु व्यापार निगम के निर्यात लक्ष्यों में गिरावट

4318. **श्रीमती चन्द्रिका अभिनन्दन जैन** : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगी कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राज्य व्यापार निगम और खनिज तथा धातु व्यापार निगम ने पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान अपने निर्यात लक्ष्यों, विशेषकर कांडला मुक्त पत्तन से निर्यात होने वाले लौह अयस्क, खाद्य पदार्थों उर्वरकों और अन्य अयस्कों से संबंधित निर्यात लक्ष्यों में कमी कर दी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान कांडला मुक्त पत्तन से किये गये निर्यात का वर्ष-वार ब्यौरा क्या है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी) : (क) एम०एम०टी०सी० तथा एस०टी०सी० पत्तन वार निर्यात लक्ष्य नहीं रखते हैं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(ग) एम०एस०टी०सी० द्वारा पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान कांडला पत्तन से किये गये निर्यात का वर्ष-वार ब्यौरा :

(मात्रा : हजार मी० टन में)

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